



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

July 3, 2008

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To: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
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From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

SINGLE USE BAG REDUCTION AND RECYCLING PROGRAM – STATUS UPDATE

On January 22, 2008, your Board adopted the County of Los Angeles' Single Use Bag Reduction and Recycling Program (Program) and instructed the Chief Executive Officer, in partnership with the Directors of Public Works, Internal Services, Public Health, and the Sanitation Districts, and key stakeholders, including large supermarkets and retail stores, the plastic bag industry, environmental organizations, and recyclers, to implement the Program by July 1, 2008.

Your Board also instructed the County Working Group to 1) report back by July 1, 2008 on a plan for integrating convenience stores and other appropriate franchise stores whose cumulative square footage exceeds 10,000 square feet into the Program by July 1, 2009, consistent with the County's adopted goals; and 2) consider the following approaches when verifying the data that will be included in the Disposal Rate Measurement: a manifest system, tipping fees, third-party verification, and County verification and ensure that a draft framework is made available to stakeholders for review prior to adoption.

On May 2, 2008, this Office issued the first Quarterly Progress Report as directed by your Board. The second Quarterly Progress Report, which will be submitted to your Board on August 1, 2008 for the period of May 2008 through July 2008, will include information on the following:

Store Related Efforts

- Program Launch: Distribution of a Single-Use Bag Reduction and Recycling Program Packet to affected stores in the County's unincorporated areas and partner cities that provides information on a menu of store-specific program options and minimum store participation levels.
- Store Database: Compilation of a list of large supermarkets and retail stores subject to the Program in the County's unincorporated areas; and a separate list of stores not subject to the County policy.

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- Store Recognition: Submission of a plan for encouraging and acknowledging exemplary participation by individual stores.
- Integrating Convenience/Franchise Stores: Submission of a plan for integrating convenience stores and other appropriate franchise stores.
- Measurement Methodology: Submission of a measurement methodology for monitoring, tracking and evaluating store progress in attaining the Board's policy goals.

Public Education

- Environmental Awareness Message: Submission of an environmental message that would be printed on plastic bags and education materials.
- Public Education Campaign: Creation of a public education campaign that promotes reusable bags and at-store recycling and emphasizes anti-littering.
- Outreach to Cities: Ongoing promotion and outreach to cities encouraging them to participate and join the Program.

Additional Program Components

- Litter Hot Spots: Identification of litter hot spots and development of litter reduction programs.
- Program Expansion: Promotion of recycling markets for single-use bags, maximizing recycled content, and exploring a ban at County facilities.

Legislation Update

- Assembly Bill 2058 (Levine, Brownley, Davis): AB 2058, the County's co-sponsored legislation, recently passed the Senate Environmental Quality Committee and will be heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact me, or your staff may contact Burt Kumagawa of this Office at (213) 893-9742, or via e-mail at bkumagawa@ceo.lacountv.gov.

WTF:LS
DSP:BK:ib

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
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 Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County